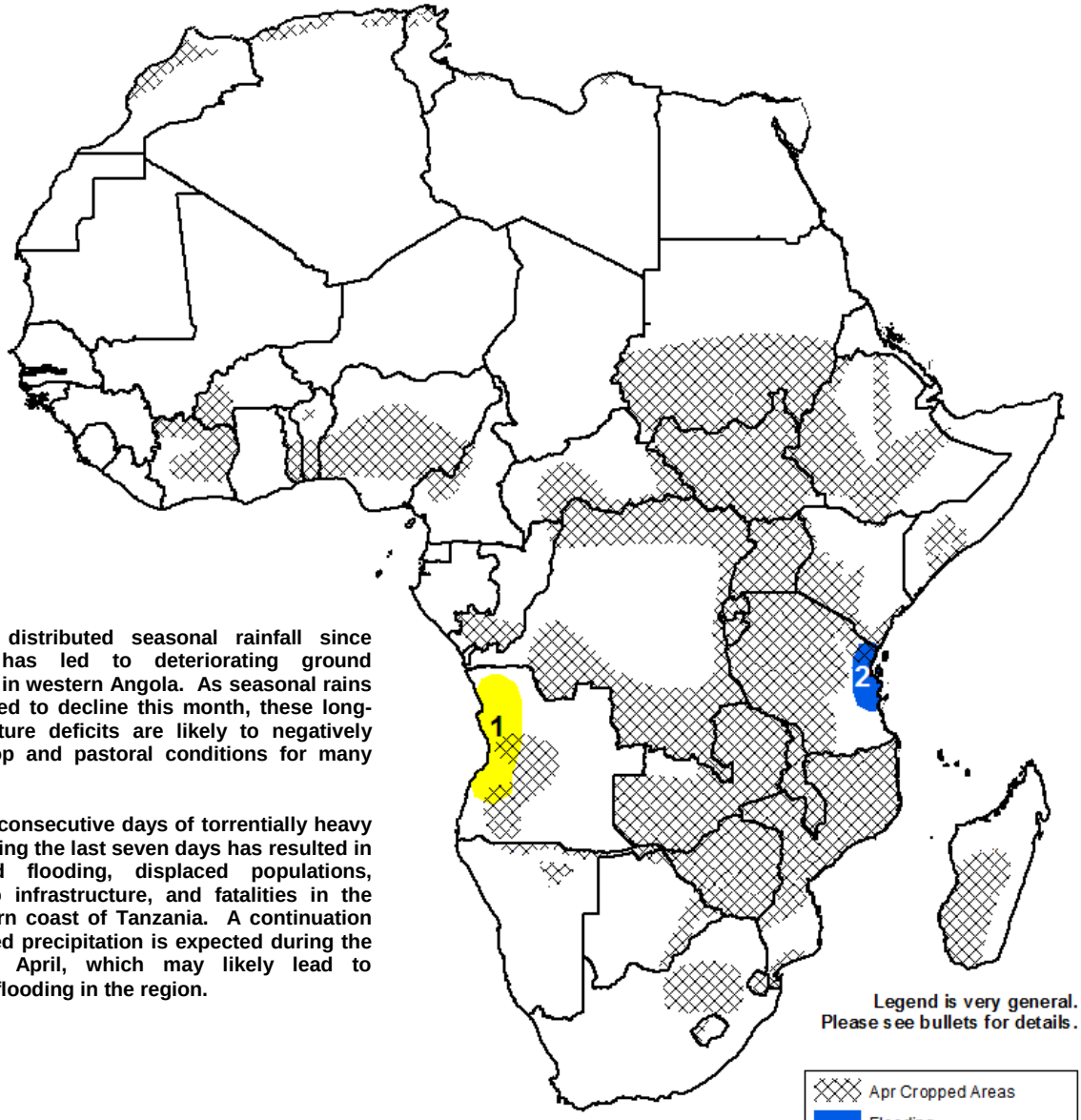
Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook
April 17 – April 23, 2014

- **Significantly heavy amounts of rainfall are expected to worsen flooding conditions across eastern Tanzania.**



1) Poorly distributed seasonal rainfall since February has led to deteriorating ground conditions in western Angola. As seasonal rains are expected to decline this month, these long-term moisture deficits are likely to negatively impact crop and pastoral conditions for many areas.

2) Several consecutive days of torrentially heavy rainfall during the last seven days has resulted in widespread flooding, displaced populations, damage to infrastructure, and fatalities in the northeastern coast of Tanzania. A continuation of enhanced precipitation is expected during the middle of April, which may likely lead to additional flooding in the region.

Well-distributed seasonal rains observed in the Horn, with heavier amounts eastern Tanzania.

During the first dekad of April, moderate to locally heavy seasonal rainfall continued throughout many areas in the Greater Horn of Africa. Following a brief reduction of rains in western Ethiopia, well-distributed rain amounts were again observed during the last week, with lesser amounts extending into some of the Belg-producing regions of eastern Amhara and northern Oromia. Throughout Uganda, seasonal rains were frequent and near average. In Kenya, rains were generally lighter during the last week, as most of the higher rainfall amounts were received in the eastern and southern parts of the country. In southern Somalia, some local areas experienced isolated heavier rainfall amounts in southern Somalia (**Figure 1**).

The highest weekly accumulations (>200mm) were received throughout coastal eastern Tanzania, which reportedly triggered numerous floods, displaced populations, and widespread damage to infrastructure during the last week. In Dar es Salaam, rain gauge measurements indicate several consecutive days of torrential rainfall totaling over 300 mm, which exceeds five times the normal climatological amount during early April. Much of the anomalous rainfall and excess moisture have also been observed across Zanzibar, as well as throughout the Tanga and Pwani provinces.

For the upcoming outlook period, precipitation forecasts suggest a continuation of heavy, flood-inducing rainfall across eastern Tanzania (**Figure 2**). The continuation of above-average rains is likely to exacerbate flooding conditions and possibly lead to additional negative ground impacts during the middle of April. Further north, moderate to locally heavy amounts of precipitation are expected to continue throughout Uganda, Kenya, and Somalia, with a slight reduction of rains forecast over some of the Belg-producing areas of Ethiopia.

Favorably early season rains received across Cote D'Ivoire and Ghana.

In West Africa, the onset of seasonal has commenced throughout many areas in the Gulf of Guinea region. As the ITCZ/ITF has experienced an anomalous northward shift during early April, the resulting precipitation has also been anomalously wet throughout parts of northern Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, and southern Burkina Faso. Satellite estimated rainfall anomalies depict favorable moisture surpluses ranging between 25 and 50mm for many of these areas over the last 30 days (**Figure 3**). For the next seven days, forecasts suggest a return to a more normal distribution of rainfall. Rains are expected to be slightly decreased across many anomalously wet areas, with increased rains over some of the anomalously dry areas in southeastern Nigeria.

Satellite Estimated Rainfall (mm)
Valid: April 8 – April 14, 2014

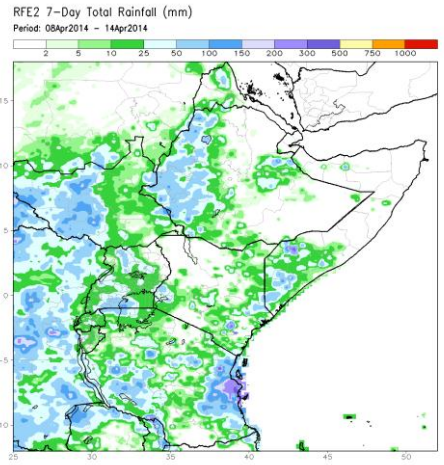


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

GFS Forecast Total Rainfall (mm)
Valid: April 7 – April 14, 2014

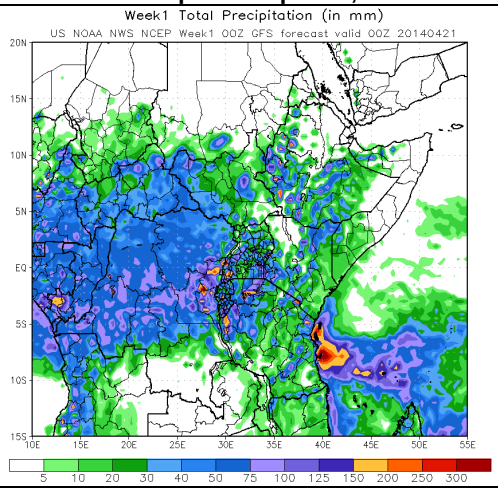


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

Satellite Estimated Rainfall Anomaly (mm)
Valid: March 14 – April 12, 2014

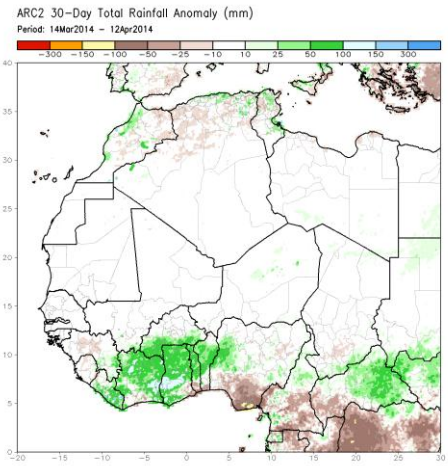


Figure 3: NOAA/CPC

Note: The hazards outlook map on page 1 is based on current weather/climate information and short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week). It assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

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